Amendment to the specification::

Please amend paragraph [0001] at page 1 as follows:

[0001]   This application is related to the following U.S. Patent Applications:

Serial No. 10/643,629~~10/~~—————————————, entitled FREQUENT ITEMSET

COUNTING USING CLUSTERED PREFIXES AND INDEX SUPPORT, ~~(Attorney Docket No. 50277-2248),~~ filed on ~~the same day herewith~~August 18, 2003; and

Serial No. 10/643,628~~10/~~—————————————, entitled EXPRESSING

FREQUENT ITEMSET COUNTING OPERATIONS, ~~(Attorney Docket No. 50277-2250),~~ filed on August 18, 2003~~the same day herewith~~;

the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

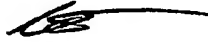
Please amend paragraph [0111] at page 26 as follows:

[0111]   The combination associated with a bitmap may be used as the index key for

determining where within the index to place the entry for the bitmap. According to one

embodiment, a bitmap index is used to store the bitmaps. Each entry within the bitmap index is

associated with a combination, and includes the bitmap for the combination. Within the bitmap

index, the bitmaps may be compressed to preserve space. In addition, when a stored bitmap is

needed during a frequent itemset operation, it is possible to load selected portions of the bitmap

into volatile memory, rather ~~then~~than the entire bitmap.

Please charge any deficiency of fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: December 9, 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents Washington, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 9, 2003.

Clare C. Finney	Clare Finney	December 9, 2003
Name	Signature	Date Signed